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A Message to the Churches

at the convention of the American Lutheran Church, to be read in the congregations

Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ

Holding fast to God's Word Christians believe the Gospel and are committed to serving the Lord according to His will. Bearing personal witness for Him they are active church members, never breaking Christian fellowship nor ceasing to pray, frequent guests at the Lord's Table. They search the Scriptures and are good stewards of all things God has given them. They are responsible citizens deeply concerned with their neighbors' total welfare, extending their deeds of love through cooperation.

Obviously this ideal has not been attained. As we grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord we become more aware of our failings. Faith always bears fruit and only by the measure of deeds can the vitality of our faith be ascertained. To produce fruit more abundantly faith must grow stronger, hope kept alive and love increase, lest the fruit be meager and shriveled.

By action of our recent convention, we are now committed to unite organically with certain segments of our brethren to give fuller expression to our common faith. This decision reaches far and demands all a clear understanding of the purpose of the church and our place in it. A fresh determination to follow the Lord with our whole hearts is necessary as we prepare to enter this larger union.

Sobered by great responsibilities, purified by trial, thrilled by widening opportunities we, buoyed up by the love of Christ, should set our hearts and hands to the task Christ has given to His church and be ready to pay the cost. Our time and money are never better invested.

In the light of our historic decision to unite our several church bodies, we must prepare ourselves with serious attention to our spiritual growth. To this end, the program "Spiritual Growth in Five Dimensions" has been designed and is urgently recommended by the convention to the churches. Better church fellowship, an eager searching of the Scriptures, personal witnessing for Christ, a greater interest and loving service for the welfare of all people, complete dedication of all our talents to the cause of Christ, a continued turning to Him, the author and finisher of our faith, are essential to the demonstration of our faith.

Let us be faithful to our calling doing a larger work and doing it better so that people everywhere may be encouraged to trust the love of Christ and labor together while patiently awaiting His return.

Henry F. Schuh
President

Paul Moeller
Secretary

This special message was sent to all the congregations of the American Lutheran Church after the general convention of the Church at Blue Island, Illinois, October 4-11. We feel sure this message also has something to say to the U.E.L.C.

News and Notes

AN OPEN LETTER FROM THE W.M.S. EXECUTIVE BOARD

Dear W.M.S. members:

Although you have not heard from your W.M.S. officers since the synodical convention in Cedar Falls, Iowa last June, your executive board has been active. On September 29th we met in Minneapolis. Here it was decided that we should be represented at the Women's Coordinating Committee of the Lutheran World Federation which meets in Chicago July 9th.

The board desires also to call your attention to the following items of interest:

(1) When deciding on a special project or when allocating funds, please refer to the W.M.S. budget, which your delegates adopted at our last convention.

(2) "By the Riverside" is a splendid collection of ten programs prepared by the Literature Committee of the W.M.S. We urge you to use this selection for your devotional programs. Copies are available at the Lutheran Publishing House, Blair, Nebraska at 75c per copy. Mrs. Sidney Jorgensen is planning the next W.M.S. program booklet. Pastor Archie Madsen is preparing eight Bible studies. In addition there will be four special mission programs.

(3) Continue to study "Women of the Church Plan" and be prepared to make suggestions at our next convention in Racine, Wisconsin in June 1957. The pamphlet suggests a plan for organizing and carrying on the work of the women of the church. Copies are available at 3c each from W.M.F., 57 East Main, Columbus 15, Ohio.

(4) Make sure representatives from your District are elected at your W.M.S. convention to serve on the Nominating Committee at the synodical W.M.S. convention. This committee meets during the convention session of Thursday at 9:30 a.m. Give consideration to possible candidates before convention time.

(5) Copies of the synodical W.M.S. annual report of 1955-56 and post-convention reports are available from the secretary.

Be sure your organization is well

represented at the convention. This is our Silver Anniversary. Jubilee offering envelopes are being prepared, and you will be receiving them with an explanatory letter. Perhaps your society is one of the thirty-two charter members. Share in the joy of the Jubilee commemorating as it does twenty-five years of blessed work in the Lord's vineyard.

Very cordially yours,
Ruth Petrusson, Secretary

In a candlelight ceremony, Sept. 1st, at **Emmaus Lutheran Church**, Eugene, Oregon, Miss Harriet Ann Nielsen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Nielsen, became the bride of Lloyd Raymond Shultz, son of Mr. and Mrs. Orville Shultz. Pastor Edward R. Andersen performed the double-ring ceremony at 8 P. M.

October 8th was Rally Sunday at Emmaus Lutheran Church, Eugene, Oregon, which began with the Family Sunday School Worship Service at 9:45 A.M.

National Laymen's Sunday, October 21st, was observed at Emmaus Lutheran Church, when the Laymen conducted both services, the Family Sunday School Worship Service and the Church Worship Service. Harold Anderson led the liturgical part of both services. Ejvind Laursen spoke at the Family Sunday School Worship Service and Hans C. Nielsen gave the sermon at the Church Worship Service.

Reformation Day, October 28th, was observed by Rev. Edward R. Andersen speaking on the sermon topic; "Reformation," and in the evening the Luther League showed a full length movie, "Martin Luther." After the showing of the film, refreshments were served by the league members to everyone in the parish hall.

Andrew Martin Anderson passed away October 26th. He was born June 8, 1888 in Belgrade, Minn., and had resided in this community for the past 32 years. He was a member of Emmaus Lutheran Church. He is survived by his wife, Hilda, two sons, and four daughters.

Midweek Bible Study is conducted at Kingo Lutheran Church, Milwaukee,

Wis., Robert O. Berthelson, pastor. The pastor announced six weeks of study as an experiment. The first three were attended by 35-40 persons each. We are interested in the experiment. Are there other congregations who have such studies? That Sunday evening services disappeared in most churches to make pastors and members conscious of the need of more than the Sunday morning.

DAILY BIBLE READING

NOVEMBER

22 Thanksgiving Deuteronomy 5
23—Psalms 19:1-14
24—Psalms 27:1-14
25 Sunday—Psalms 46:1-11
26—Psalms 103:1-22
27—Psalms 121:1-8

130:1-8

28—Psalms 145:1-21
29—Proverbs 3:1-20
30—Isaiah 40:1-11, 28-31

DECEMBER

1—Isaiah 55:1-13
2 Advent—Luke 6:20-49
3—John 1:1-28
4—John 1:29-51
5—John 3:1-36
6—John 4:1-38
7—John 15:1-27
8—John 17:1-26
9 Universal

Bible Sunday—Luke 8:1-21
10—Acts 17:16-34
11—Romans 8:1-39
12—Romans 12:1-21
13—1 Corinthians 13:1-13
14—Philippians 4:1-23
15—Hebrews 11:1-40
16 Sunday—Luke 10:23-42
17—Luke 11:1-17
18—Luke 12:22-34
19—Luke 15:1-10
20—Luke 15:11-32
21—Luke 1:1-23
22—Luke 1:24-38
23 Sunday—Luke 1:39-56
24—Luke 1:57-80
25 Christmas—Luke 2:1-20

For those who want to continue reading the Bible the last six days of the year, these passages are recommended:

26—Luke 2:21-40
27—Luke 2:41-52
28—Luke 3:1-23
29—Luke 4:1-15
30 Sunday—Luke 4:16-44
31—Psalms 90:1-17

(Continued on page 15)

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Much of our news is received from Religious News Service, and the News Bureau of the National Lutheran Council.

JOHN M. JENSEN, Editor
321 E. 8th Street
Spencer, Iowa

Lutheran World Action at a College, Home Missions, etc.

I first express my personal gratitude to the congregations represented and to the pastors who came to the installation service at Blair in First Lutheran Church in the latter part of October. Dr. Jersild's sermon has been published, and you have all had the opportunity of reading his message which indicates the responsibilities necessary to fulfill the office to which the Church has called me. May I ask our people and congregations to pray the Lord of the Church that He will guide and direct us in all our work and life.

In the two and one-half months that I have been in as the president of the Church I have had opportunity of visiting several of our missions. For one day I had my privilege to visit the Cherokee Indian Mission at Oaks where Pastor Vammen has served for 32

years. I arrived in Oaks on a Sunday evening when a service was being held in the parish church where the Rev. Kaldahl is the pastor. In the congregation, listening to the sermon given by Pastor H. Irving Petersen, were some fifty Cherokee Indian Children in addition to adult members of the congregation. I wish that it were possible for all the members of the U.E.L.C. to be present to hear this congregation sing praises unto the Lord.

The following day I visited in the Children's Home and was invited to speak to the children at the devotion-noon in the school. God has indeed blessed our work among the Cherokees, and we are most grateful to the staff at Oaks for the faithful service to our brother and sister in Christ.

While I write these lines I received a communication from Dr. Paul Empie concerning the plight of fellow Lutherans in Hungary. We have a grave responsibility to these needy people as well as churches around the world through Lutheran World Action. Let me quote from Bishop Hanns Lilje to Dr. Empie: "URGENT REQUEST TO ALL LUTHERANS IN USA TO FORWARD TO ALL LUTHERANS IN USA URGENT REQUEST TO PRAY FOR HUNGARIAN LUTHERAN CHURCH STOP BISHOP ORDASS HIS WHOLE CHURCH NEEDS MOST URGENT FINANCIAL AND MATERIAL AID VIA GE-

LUTHERAN WORLD ACTION

The Church has a responsibility to the National Lutheran Council and Lutheran World Action for 1956 of \$100,000. As of November 12 we have 50% of the money. There are only six weeks remaining in which to raise \$1,936.05 to this worthy cause.

May I suggest that you could all visit with Mr. John Gebuhr at Council Bluffs, Iowa who last summer together with Mrs. Gebuhr visited Europe and the Middle East.

A Message by President William Larsen

He tells a wonderful story about the dramatic use of every dollar that is given to Lutheran World Action. Maybe he would consent to tell his experiences in the congregations in the vicinity of Council Bluffs.

Last Sunday Dana College had open house for the residents of the Blair community, and for the first time I saw the beautiful new furniture placed in the women's dormitory through "Forward with Christ." Again I could not help but offer a prayer of thanksgiving to God for the faithful people in our Church who give of their means to make Dana College possible.

Each time when I am invited to speak in chapel to the young people who are students at Dana, I think of the responsibility and the opportunity lying before each of these students. We can expect that they will be the leaders in the Church and in the nation.

Late in October the ministerium in the vicinity of Blair admitted the Rev. Edward R. Andersen to the U.E.L.C. It is a joy to welcome him into our branch of the Christian church. Most of you are aware of the need for pastors, and we ought to continue in prayer that young men will hear the call of Christ to serve Him as shepherds in the congregations.

I have visited our Home Mission congregations in Colorado and again was impressed by the need for renewed effort to launch new congregations in many areas. It was inspiring to talk with the pastors in these congregations. They are busy men who are giving of themselves (and in some ways their entire families are helping) in order to serve God in their communities. It is astonishing how new members are coming into the Church.

On November 11 the first service was held in our newest mission at East Whittier, California, where Pastor Verner Carlsen is serving. Soon construction will begin on a first unit in order to provide a place for worship. It is actually a miracle of faith how the necessary funds for building have come, largely through bequests.

We are approaching Thanksgiving. May I suggest that we remember to thank God for His goodness toward us in Jesus Christ; for the manner in which He has provided the Church with the means to have a College and a Seminary; for the opportunities given to us in Home Missions; for the service of faithful pastors and people throughout the Church; and for His continued guidance in the Holy Spirit.

At the moment our attention is centered on Lutheran World Action. Remember to pray for our sisters and brothers in Hungary. Let us give as God has blessed us so that our U.E.L.C. will be able to give its fair share and even go over the top in Lutheran World Action.

Church News from here and there

BISHOP BERGGRAV WARNS AGAINST RUSSIAN CONTACTS

Copenhagen—Norwegian Bishop Eivind Berggrav has issued a warning here against ecclesiastical contacts with Eastern European countries.

The former primate of the Church of Norway made known his views in a statement appearing in the Copenhagen Newspaper, "Kristeligt Dagblad."

Bishop Berggrav said his letter was prompted by the Church of Denmark's action in sending a delegation to the Soviet Union last year, its decision to invite Russian churchmen for a return visit, and its acceptance of an invitation to visit Rumania.

Among other things, Bishop Berggrav said:

"In the Soviet Union there is a Church which with servility submits to an openly declared godless State and its propaganda—yes, the State is worse than godless, inasmuch as its scientific outlook on life is hostile to any kind of Christian faith. By visiting and celebrating and joining in religious services with a church like the Orthodox Church in Russia we are on the verge of committing treason." Bishop Berggrav also pointed out that the Orthodox Church, on the whole, goes its own way in many fundamental matters and constantly refers to its exceptional position in relation to the other Churches.

He said he felt that the Evangelical Churches may have, and also ought to have, contact with the Orthodox Churches. But he warned against believing that such contact, as a matter of course, is the same as fellowship.

"At heart, the Orthodox concept of the Church is the same as that of the Roman Catholic Church and completely foreign to the Protestant Churches," he declared.

Bishop Hans Fuglsang-Damgaard, Primate of the Church of Denmark, and leader of its delegation to the Soviet Union, strongly refuted Bishop Berggrav's assertion that "we are on the verge of committing treason" to visit, celebrate and take part in church services with the Orthodox Church in Russia.

The Danish Primate referred to the fact that, previous to accepting the

invitation, he had discussed the matter with leaders of the Lutheran World Federation and the World Council of Churches and all had been in favor of acceptance.

Such a visit was also in accord, he said, with the wish for closer contact expressed in the message of the World Council to the Russian Orthodox Church.

Bishop Fuglsang-Damgaard also mentioned the many other Churches in the West which have renewed contact with the Russian Church, and he maintained that the trip by the Danish delegation was an expression of a true ecumenical spirit.

In a later and more detailed statement, Bishop Berggrav further emphasized that the risk involved in the visits was not of a political nature, but consisted in letting the church people in the Soviet Union get the impression that the Orthodox Church's compromise with the totalitarian and God-hostile regime is being passed over in silence.

"In practice, a kind of concordate has been established, according to which the Church is permitted to live . . . against keeping quiet about all unpleasant things," he said. "Thus this Church . . . is in danger of denying the responsibilities toward one's neighbor as preached in the Gospel. The mutual visits and festivities create a 'false impression,' both in the Soviet Union Church and in our own Churches."

Bishop Berggrav said he felt that a poor kind of diplomacy was being introduced into the churches when much of what has been said in the course of these visits must be concealed, both in the Soviet and in the free Churches."

"We are not allowed, out of Christian benevolence, to leave truth in the lurch," he concluded. "Without truth, the benevolence may easily become a sentimental bog of unreality."

DANISH CHURCHMEN VISIT RUMANIA AND BULGARIA

Copenhagen—A five-man delegation from the Lutheran Church of Denmark is making a three-week visit to Rumania at the invitation of the Orthodox Church of that country. The group left here Oct. 16.

Head of the delegation is Bishop

Skat Hoffmeyer of Aarhus, who accompanied by Dean Alf Johansen of Salling and the Rev. Svend Bregnbach of Copenhagen, both of whom have intimate knowledge of the Orthodox Church; the Rev. Poul Hans Ryslinge, who has been to Rumania twice before; and the Rev. Morten Zeuthen, secretary for Eastern European Minority Lutheran Church under the Lutheran World Federation.

The Danish delegation, which far as is known, is the first from a non-Orthodox Western Church, received the invitation to visit Rumania last spring and it was decided to accept it at the Bishop's Conference in September.

DEFERRED PAYMENT PLAN FINANCES NEW CHURCH BUILDING

Kirkwood, Mo.—First Presbyterian church here will soon be housed in a new \$750,000 building thanks to the ingenuity of its finance chairman.

Fred Farrow, a veteran of 28 years in the investment business, decided to raise the needed funds by the method of selling bonds, but with a new twist—a deferred payment plan.

He reached this decision after consulting professional bankers and fund raisers who warned that the proposed \$750,000 building program would never get beyond the planning stage on the church's operating budget.

"I knew from past experience that the donation system wouldn't produce the results we wanted," Mr. Farrow said. "I figured it would take 10 years and a lot of hard work."

"We have a large number of young people who couldn't afford to give much less give, \$1,000 straight up," he said. "But they could afford to invest \$200 a year at five per cent interest."

Now, after a year and a half, bond sales are nearing the \$700,000 mark. Investments among the 800-odd bondholders range in size from \$100 to \$24,000.

The annual income of the bonds will be used to pay the interest, retire the principal, and bonds will be redeemed at any time in case of emergency. Mr. Farrow figures the church saved about \$34,000 in brokerage fees through its do-it-yourself plan.

"It's all very thrilling," said the pastor, Dr. Donald H. Stewart. "The bankers said we didn't have a chance and now we're ready to start construction on one of the finest examples of church architecture in the parts."

UL ARCHBISHOP EENAGE STEADY

ul, Minn. — Roman Catholic
op William O. Brady of St.
d here that "steady company
is not good for teenagers
lly, physically or psychologi-

pathetic when one views the
social life which results when
ould grace 21 is begun awk-
at 13," he wrote in the St.
atholic Bulletin, official paper
rchdiocese.

relate expressed his views in
ing on a social conduct code
agers drawn up by Gov. Or-
reeman's advisory council on
and youth. He said the code
ood as a beginning" but not
for Catholic parents because
ot express the special duties
whose homes must be formed
atholic tradition."

shop Brady said Catholic par-
est understand that their au-
is not a matter of accom-
to the times but a direct
n from God made effective

by a Catholic consciousness and ap-
plied with a Catholic conscience."

"In deciding the welfare of family
life," he said, "the principle cannot
be 'some least common denominator'
nor can it be 'everybody's doing it.'
The principle must be that which
flows from the sacrament of marriage,
the fact of original sin and the
fourth commandment."

In addition to warning parents a-
gainst permitting their teenage chil-
dren to "go steady," Archbishop Brady
called for a "special understanding of
the economic facts of life" in regard
to young people.

"Our school age youngsters," he
said, "are being conditioned to lux-
uries which they have not earned,
parties, outfits and projects which a
sophisticated society tries to demand
without understanding that 'keeping
up with the Jones boys' is hardly an
effective training in responsibility and
certainly no training in self-denial."

WORLD AFRAID OF VIOLENCE NIEMOELLER SAYS

St. Louis, Mo.—Dr. Martin Nie-
moeller, president of the Evangelical

Church of Hesse-Nassau in Germany,
told 9,000 persons at a Reformation
rally in Kiel Auditorium here that the
world is afraid of its own powers of
violence "and can only be saved by
suffering and forgiving love."

In a reference to the H-bomb, the
German churchman said that "like
James and John, we are tempted to
bring down the fire of heaven upon
the evildoers." He warned that "the
danger is that we shall love our own
truth and our own way and not put
our trust in God."

"We must not give ourselves to our
own ideas and our own beliefs, for
both are dangerous," he said, "but we
must remember that God's promise
to His children stands. Christ is the
way, the truth, and the life for a
world in which men are caught in
the nets of pride and despair."

Dr. Niemoeller came to America for
a five-week lecture tour of the U.S.
and Canada under the auspices of
the U.S. Conference of the World
Council of Churches. He is scheduled
to speak at churches, colleges and
seminaries in both countries and to
address mass-meetings sponsored by
local councils of churches.

On Dec. 6, New York University
will present Dr. Niemoeller with the
University Medal, its "highest award
to distinguished people." The pre-
sentation will be made by Dr. Carroll
Newsom, university president. Later
Dr. Niemoeller will address students
and faculty of the university at a
meeting sponsored by the NYU Chris-
tian Association.

THE LIVING WORD

By Luther A. Weigle

"All to brake his skull"

King James Version records
en Abimelech approached the
the tower of Thebez, to set
"a certain woman cast a piece
stone upon Abimelech's head,
to brake his skull" (Judges
he modern reader, unless he
inted with Old and Middle
is not sure what the last
eeans. Does it state the wo-
urpose or tell the result of
on? If the result, what was
"all to brake" mean "almost
r "quite broke"?

al translation of the Hebrew
ied his skull," and that is
e King James translators
y their expression.

efix "to-", like the German
d the Latin and English
pressed separation, and "to-
neant break asunder or in
his prefix came also to be
n verbs containing no idea of
n, and with these verbs it
phasized or intensified their
—for example "to-establish"
establish perfectly or en-
e word "all" was often used
prefix "to-", as adding fur-

ther emphasis or intensity. In time
"all to" and "all-to" began to be re-
garded as adverbs meaning complete-
ly or entirely.

Coverdale's rendering of Proverbs
6:15 was "Suddenly shal he be al to-
broken, and not be healed." The King
James translators did not retain the
"all to" expression in this verse, which
they render: "suddenly shall he be
broken without remedy." The Revis-
ed Standard Version has: "in a mo-
ment he will be broken beyond heal-
ing."

Milton wrote of Wisdom that her
wings "were altoruffled, and some-
times impaired" (Comus, 380). In
Bunyan's *Pilgrim's Progress*, Christi-
ana tells the Interpreter about the
efforts of Mrs. Timorous to persuade
her not to undertake the journey, and
says, "She all-to-be-fooled me." The
expression so appears in the Oxford
Edition. It was too much for the
editor of an edition published by the
American Tract Society about a hun-
dred years ago, who changed it to
read, "She also befooled me."

There are excellent treatments of
this now obsolete usage in the Oxford
English Dictionary, under **All**, C, 14
and 15; **To-**, prefix²; and **To-break**.

BITING ONESELF

"They tell me that a rattlesnake,
if cornered, will become so angry it
will bit itself. That is exactly what
the harbouring of hate and resent-
ment against others is—a biting of
oneself. We think we are harming
others in holding these spite and
hates, but the deeper harm is to our-
selves."

Stanley Jones

NOTA BENE otherwise N.B.

The man who does what he pleases is
seldom pleased with what he does.
Men like rivers become crooked by fol-
lowing the line of least resistance.
We lose the peace of years when we
hunt after the rapture of moments.
He who thinks little of sin never has
great thoughts of God.—Owen.
It is easy to crowd Christ out, because
He will never crowd Himself in.
—From Reville.

THE WASHINGTON OBSERVER

By Gerhard Lenski

THE UNSOLVED PROBLEM OF ALCOHOLISM

Despite determined efforts on the part of strong agencies, alcoholism remains an unsolved problem in the nation's capital.

As early as 1945 the first Alcoholic Clinic operated by a public health department was started in Washington. The work of this Clinic was reinforced by the Congressional Act of 1947 which made provision for an enlarged educational and preventive program. As time has run on new techniques have been employed and new facilities made available. All this has been matched by a steady increase in the number of drunks and alcoholics cared for by these District agencies operating with District funds.

The following facts paint their own clear picture.

- (1) There are approximately 40,000 arrests for drunkenness each year in Washington.
- (2) Each year an average of 1,500 patients classified as alcoholics are admitted to the D.C. General Hospital.
- (3) More than 6,000 such patients have sought help from the Alcoholic Clinic since 1950.
- (4) Other agencies are intent upon solving this problem—Alcoholics Anonymous, the Salvation Army, agencies from the various churches—but the combined efforts of them all are not adequate to meet the rising need of the present situation.

While Washington may head the nation in its alcoholic troubles, we are sure that many other cities and communities have much the same problem. Our churches and our pastors are well acquainted with it and concerned about it. What we write here is to encourage them to continue their efforts, not underestimating the difficulties that may be involved, not expecting results too soon. Whether viewed as a moral or a medical problem, there can be no doubt that a great world of human woe and misery is involved. The sorrow that we see and tabulate with statistics is great, but it represents only a part of this great, continuing evil. Help is needed—help such as the Master once brought to demon-possessed men in His day, help which only God's power can provide.

A SLUM CLEARANCE PROJECT

The largest slum clearance project in the United States is being scheduled to take place in Washington in the near future. Through its Housing and Finance Agency the Government has ear-marked \$40 million for this purpose. Additional funds amounting to half that much more will be supplied out of District resources. The area to be rebuilt is the Second Precinct which comprises some 927 acres. Once, not so many years ago, this Second Precinct was a high class residential section. Today it is slum area with rotting hovels, littered yards and sanitary conditions of a most impossible kind. Some public buildings will be allowed to remain but at least 15,700 dwellings will be demolished.

For some years now this Second Precinct has been, not only the worst slum area, but also the worst crime area in the city. Those sociological experts who attribute man's wickedness to his environment have had a classic example to prove their point in the above described situation. While we cannot accept this version of the case in its entirety, we are compelled to agree that the correlation between crime and slum environment in this instance is clearly shown. Beyond all this, it has long been a national disgrace that a country as rich as ours, maintaining a capital as wonderful as ours, should have ever tolerated for so

long a time conditions like the foregoing. We incline to think that the Congress has been inexcusably slow in observing what has been going on here on its very doorstep. After all, the District is governed by the Congress and cannot deal with problems of this sort with Congressional approval and authority. Perhaps our local churches might be chided for not having done more to help. What they have done to combat this deterioration both in health and in human character, we can only surmise. The sad thing is they didn't do much. Most of the nice churches operating there have either closed up or moved away to better neighborhoods. Several Lutheran churches are in the latter category.

But now, at long last, something is to be done. We must watch with interest and report such progress as is made.

PEACE OF MIND THROUGH DRUGS

The recent conference on the Evaluation of Pharmacotherapy in Mental Illness, held in Washington, D. C., comes something more than a matter of passing interest. Nearly 700 recognized experts attended this conference representing such agencies as the National Institute of Mental Health, the American Psychiatric Association, the National Academy of Science-National Research Council. Out of the welter of many words, some thought-provoking findings are to be summarized. We list some of the more important.

(1) There is an increased use of drugs by the general public and especially drugs with a tranquillizing effect. It is estimated that about 7,000,000 individuals are regular drug-users, not all of them addicts in the sense that they are used, yet still heading in that general direction. In the last twelve months it is said that our drug stores sold at least \$100,000,000 worth of pills and drugs to people who bought them seeking relaxation, freedom from tension, the assurance of a good night's sleep.

(2) A more careful evaluation of the effect of these drugs is needed in the interest of finding newer and safer ones. At this stage, however, there is a still greater need for a more scientific base for their use lest continued use bring forth permanent ills not yet discernible.

(3) In the judgment of some experts (not preachers) a new interest in drugs may prove to be "one of the great evils to befall humanity." As one physician, Dr. W. D. Turner of New York declares, the real need is not for more drugs that will tranquillize but rather for some other kind of drug that will help men to cope with hardship and to "come back" with courage and determination.

We note no reference to religion as a help in this problem, although we feel sure that many of these experts must recognize its value. Supplying this omission, we comment to pastors who deal with disturbed individuals and to individuals who may be tempted to resort to drugs. George Muedeking's recent book, "Emotional Problems in The Bible." Here, without the help of drugs, is the prescription of the Great Physician: "Thou wilt keep perfect peace whose mind is stayed on Thee; because thou trusteth in Thee."

THE RISING SPIRAL OF LIVING COSTS

For some months now the official Government price index has indicated an over-all increase in living costs. The month's report indicated an all-time high with the encouraging prognostication that the coming months will bring further increases. The report stresses the over-all

(Continued on page 7)

God Is Color Blind

By H. E. Rasmussen, Ferndale

of the big problems of our day is the problem of segregation in our schools in the South. It is a problem which brings to light the deep seated prejudice of many white people. It is a problem which dishonors America before other peoples of the world and especially before the Asians and the Africans. It is a problem which requires love and understanding to solve, such as that which comes from Jesus Christ, God's Son. He can remove all hatred and replace it with love if man will put his trust fully in Him. A challenging cartoon was printed in one of our newspapers some time ago. It showed a beautiful swimming pool located on a wealthy estate. On the edge of the pool stood a colored caretaker. In the pool was a wealthy owner of the estate. He was calling out to the caretaker because he had gotten into water that was too deep and he didn't know how to swim. The colored man came up to him in a sorrowful voice and said, "I certainly would like to help you, but you understand I can't. You know, colored people are not allowed in this pool." The cartoon is a story which we might well take to heart. Not only does prejudice result because of our prejudice, but our children will be affected thereby. Think of the injustice that is done by hindering colored boys and girls in developing their God-given potentialities to their full extent. It not only hinders them from making a living for themselves and their families, but it hinders the colored race from making the contribution they could well be making as doctors, scientists, and in other walks of life. If we will give them equal opportunities, as they are promised under the Constitution, they will soon make a much more valuable contribution to our way of life.

Prejudice is not something that man is born with, but something that develops from the words and actions of men. Prejudice and hatred are not to be found in the heart of a child. Some years ago we lived in a Parsonage in the midst of a colored section in one of the cities of our country. Our small children would often see the negro children as they passed by on the street and occasionally they would play with them.

They enjoyed their playmates and never seemed to notice that their skin was darker than theirs, as they never mentioned it.

Our God and Creator is color blind, and if we follow Him, we must be too. He has made of one blood all nations of the world. He has made men alike except for the pigment of their skin, and He looks at all men as equal before Him, bestowing upon them the greatest of all His gifts, the forgiveness of sins and salvation in Jesus Christ. For Christ gives this command to all His disciples: "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations." None are to be excluded because of race, color, or station in life. If God offers them the greatest of all His gifts, should we not offer them the little gift of equal opportunities in education and employment?

The earliest example of Christian love carrying out Christ's Great Commission "to make disciples of all nations" is seen in the account of Philip and the Ethiopian. The Ethiopian, a negro and trusted servant of the queen, was reading from the book of Isaiah in his chariot, but he could not understand its message. Philip was led by the Spirit to speak to him and to explain the message of Isaiah. It was the message of the good news of salvation in Jesus Christ. As a result the Ethiopian put his faith in Jesus and was baptized. This was the work of the Holy Spirit leading Philip to the Ethiopian that he might be saved. Thus God was giving His greatest gift to this negro from Ethiopia.

God is color blind. He is no respecter of persons, whether they are white or black, rich or poor, learned or unlearned. He is the loving God and Father of all men. If we are followers of His Son Jesus Christ, we must love all men too, with an eternal and saving love. We must fight to give everyone the God-given rights to develop their potentialities and to properly care for their families. When people are being discriminated against, we Christians must declare our allegiance to God, by helping to protect the rights of His children. May we in all our relations with men keep before us the Golden Rule: "So whatever you wish that men would do to you, do so to them . . ." (Matt. 7:12).

THE WASHINGTON OBSERVER

(Continued from page 6)

his increase. That is to say, there are now precious few necessities for the dinner table, the mainstay of the home, the carrying on of daily work and what what are increasing in cost for the consumer. It is noted that, despite this increase, life goes along just about the same for most American people. Most of them have nice clothes, amusements, electric gadgets of all kinds, in greater degree than ever. True, many are living on a tight time. But they are not deterred by rising interest rates or bank warnings. They want that new car and they want that steak and they pay \$1.45 a pound for it. (That's what the manager of the Supermarket told me the other day when I asked him how porter-house cost.)

What is the cause of this steady increase? We very much agree with one of our readers who declares that government is responsible for such things as the Soil Bank and the support

of farm product prices are not the only or even the chief cause, but that strikes for higher wages in industry are also to be blamed. Perhaps we ought to go beyond all this and declare that the most of us, even our finest church people; are also partly responsible in that they, too, want more money, higher wages, more expensive gadgets and all these many things that send prices higher and higher. In the present situation the farmer has suffered more than some other groups and he deserves governmental protection. But has he suffered as much as some of our elderly, retired folk, living on yesterday's savings and on pensions entirely inadequate to meet present day high prices? The answer to it all is not easy, but, even so, there is one. It is the Christian answer, that which Christ, our Lord, once made so real for us when, without cost or price imposed upon us, He gave Himself for us in loving, sacrificial service. Let this answer be ours as we wrestle with monetary matters and rising costs and we will not be overcome by greed or fear of need or other kindred ills.

The Third Dimension of Life

Opening address at Iowa District Convention by C. M. Videbeck, District President.

By C. M. Videbeck

The resurrection and ascension of the Lord is the crown of His work of redemption. They have reference not only to the historical events of the Gospel record but also to the spiritual direction of the gospel life. Christ and His Gospel has a rising effect and exerts an ascending impact on human life.

This might seem a trite assertion borrowed from some dusty archive of the Saints, but insofar as the church is the household of God on earth and insofar as we, the members, are the stewards of the gospel, it contains a practical and inescapable implication for us to consider, that the effect of our ministry may be of a rising nature and in an ascending direction.

We all have problems, sometimes we call them troubles. Problems, or troubles if you please, cannot be avoided and are not to be evaded but are to be solved. We cannot run away from them. We must face them.

An analysis of all problems will convince us that no matter what their circumstances and particularity might be they can all be traced back to the same source and can be summarized into the initial and essential problem, namely; to live a three-dimensional life in a two-dimensional world. That is the problem common to all. That problem contains a logical and geometric impossibility. It cannot be done. Correct; but the church is dealing with impossibilities and our total mission is to do the impossible.

Man from ever of old has tried a million ways to solve the problem.

We are thoroughly acquainted with the two dimensions of life, namely; the width and the length, which in practical terms mean: to get hold on as much as possible and live as long as possible.

These two urges, to become rich and live long, are the dominating drives in human life.

However, the third dimension, the upward surge, is also present in the human mind and heart but being squelched and strangled by the two former it is left unsatisfied and cannot be satisfied by the two dimensions of this world. The earth on which we live might be round, but the world in which we live is flat, flat as the proverbial pancake, with no room for a third dimension. There is still not room in the inn.

To become rich and live long, nothing less will do for

the natural man which is of the earth earthy. All educational efforts, all our insatiable ambitions are governed according to these two dimensions.

Nevertheless, the urging third dimension is present and pricks the human conscience and disturbs the tranquility of the mind.

Consequently we often make a miscalculation in order to alleviate this disturbance or to satisfy the upward urge. We reason this way, that if I become president the firm I am on a higher level than the janitor in shop. If I become independently rich I am on a higher pedestal than the have-nots; and if I acquire the refinement of culture and knowledge, I am far above the level of the know-nots.

This, however, is a sad misunderstanding because whatever we might have and know belongs to the level of this world. These different economic social and cultural factors all deal with the substances of the earthly nature and on the same flat level. Above this level man cannot rise. More perhaps, but not higher.

This is indeed where we need another process than that of education, which can only help us to become rich and live long. We need upeducation, (apology Webster's) the process by which we are guided, not only out into a wider and longer life but up into a higher life of communion with God. Without this upward dimension life is flat and therefore without contents but with this third dimension life becomes a container of lasting values.

This is where the gospel of our risen and ascending Lord comes into effect, the effect which Paul has described, as being "translated into the third heaven" and "living with Christ in heavenly places." The resurrection and ascending life.

This is the very essence of the gospel that Christ for Heaven above came into our puny two-dimensional world and identified himself with us on our level to break asunder the bondage of our earthbound nature and liberate the soul with His saving love and grace. For this reason He died for us on the cross that we might live with Him in glory. For this reason the Spirit of God imparts to us the crucified and risen Lord in our life, free from the crushing burden of the two-dimensional urges, free by the ascending power of the three-dimensional faith.

third dimension can actually by honest intro-
n and self-analysis be sensed and "grasped"
our God-given and God-enlightened faculties.
ntrast between the "before" and the "after" is
ingly present. Our interpretation of life, that is: my
existence, its source and purpose, is different
e natural way of thinking. 1 Cor. 2:14-16 (please
God's thoughts are higher than our thoughts!
valuation of things, that is: my possessions of what-
earthly kind, their importance and consequence,
rent from that of the mind of the flesh. Phil. 3:7-8
read). So whether we be rich or poor, whether
ome a "somebody" or remain a "nobody," whether
sick or well, yea, whether we live long or die
these are all of minor importance and conse-
because, whether or not, "we belong to Christ"—
His because He is ours.

impact of this third dimension does not make us
or unprofitable in our two-dimensional business
On the contrary: it enriches our daily chore with
rd dimensional purpose: All that we do we do it
to the Lord, that Christ in all things may be glor-

the other hand we cannot fail to recognize that
"grasped" the third dimension, the height of life,
s make us foreigners and strangers in this two-
sional commonwealth. We are never nor entirely
ne or at ease in this "habitation." We are looking
ed, for our "citizenship" is neither to the right or
the world, nor way ahead of us in the future, but
aven, even now.

w we are assembled in Convention. As such we
rgely going to deal with the two-dimensional af-
of the church, such as mission and congregational
ets, matters pertaining to the budget, personal and
izational adjustments, problems that pertain to
aterial "evidences" of faith not seen, that we are
es world, but not of this world. Our administrative
s are solely for the auxiliary purpose of giving us
ur beloved people the third dimension of life, the
given faith dimension, communion with God in
t, who is our life with His complete and finished
nption, the forgiveness of sin and life everlasting.

this end may I make reference to the greatest festi-
ay of the year, not our birthday, wedding day or—
ll day, not Christmas, Easter, or Pentecost, but that
ed day we call Sunday, the Lord's Day. Make Sun-
he happiest day in our church life, when we are as-
led in God's presence as the body of Christ, when
nare in the means of grace, the spoken and visible
, when our souls are being relieved from the burden
e two-dimensional law and being liberated from
burden of the two-dimensional gospel to the glori-
freedom in Christ. Sunday, the Lord's Day, when
whole Christian Church on earth is subject to the
ard draft of the Spirit of God. God bless our auxili-
attempts to the praise and glory of His Holy name.

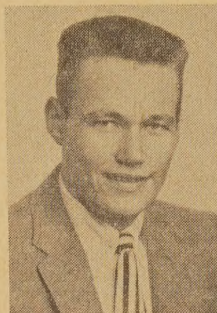


DANIANIS IN WHO'S WHO AMONG STUDENTS IN AMERICAN UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES

The following Dana College students are listed in *Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges*, an annual publication which includes biographical sketches of student leaders in America.



Ada E. Anderson
Westbrook, Maine
President of the
Dormitory Coun-
cil, Secretary of
Dana Chapter of
ASF, Choir.



David W. Larsen
Chicago, Illinois
President of the
Science Club,
Band, Choir, Lu-
theran Brother-
hood Scholarship.



Ann K. Lindholm
Swannanoa, N. C.
President of the
Fine Arts Club,
treasurer of the
Senior Class.



Larrie E. Stone
Omaha, Nebraska
King of Snow,
Carnival, Basket-
ball, Baseball.



Darol D. Valder Blair, Nebraska
President of the
Student Body, ed-
itor of *The Sow-*
er, Dramatics.



Marilyn J. Ward
Racine, Wisconsin
Editor of *Hermes*
and *Viking Log*,
secretary of Sen-
ior Class.

Ada Anderson, daughter of Rev. and Mrs. Elmer Anderson, Westbrook, Me., died Nov. 13 in her home. Miss Anderson, a senior honor student at Dana, returned to her home following a major operation for cancer. A week before her death she was notified that she had been listed in the university and college *Who's Who*.

Memorial services were held at Dana on Nov. 15. Rev. F. William Thomsen and Dr. C. C. Madsen, president of the college, spoke. The Dana College Choir, of which Ada was a member, sang. Funeral services were held Nov. 17 at First Lutheran Church, Milltown, Wis.

Ada Anderson was born July 16, 1935, at Lindsay, Nebr. She attended high school in Milltown, Wis., and Westbrook, Me.

THE LUTHER LEAGUE

John W. Nielsen, Editor

A Thanksgiving Meditation

By Elizabeth Nielsen

Let us give thanks to God for He has been good to us. But perhaps we should ask, for what are we thankful?

Are we thankful to God that we have heard the message of salvation—that we live in a land where we can go to church—where we can dare to be Christian? We'll grant that many, many thousands in our land aren't Christian, but we must also grant that we all have the opportunity here to come to Christ if we but will.

Are we thankful for our homes—for the roof over our heads—for the warmth of the fire on cold winter nights—for homes with gardens and trees and lawns? We may not have the largest or the most beautiful home in town—our furniture may be a collection of pieces and odds and ends gathered up here and there, but whether or not we have wall to wall carpeting or the latest styled sofa or the most modern lamps, we have homes, and we are thankful for that home at 316 North Plum or wherever it might be?

Are we thankful for the clothes we have to wear? Here again we may not have the latest thing in winter hats—our coat may have seen much wear—our best dress may have been in style several seasons ago, but we do have clothes to wear! If the temperature drops to zero, we can find another sweater or a jacket to put on under our coat. We can always find a pair of mittens or a scarf to tie around our head. But are we thankful for every piece of clothing that is ours?

Are we thankful for the food we eat each day—for the sack of flour—for the bag of sugar—the loaf of bread in the breadbox or the jars of fruit—the cans of vegetables that stand on our shelves? We may not always have something that we really like, but we have enough to eat. We don't go to bed at night hungry—our children aren't without milk and vegetables and those foods which help to make them healthy. Are we thankful for this abundance?

Are we thankful for our schools, our doctors, our nurses, for the freedoms we enjoy? Are we thankful for our government, for our way of life? Are we thankful that war has not devastated our land and homes?

We could go on and on, but perhaps we should ask ourselves, Are we thankful for the greatest of gifts? Are we thankful for our Saviour? Are we thankful that God chose to give to us who are sinful beings His Son that we might have salvation? Are you thankful to God? Am I?

If we are truly thankful for Jesus, then His love must abide in us. And if His love abides in us, then we shall not be able to close our hearts to our brothers in need, whether his need be physical or spiritual.

In the refugee camps of Europe and Asia hungry babies are crying for milk, but their parents don't have any to give them. Thousands of boys and girls have nothing to eat but bread and other starchy food. Without milk they will get sick and die. Because God has richly blessed our country, we have made more powdered milk than we need. Are we willing to give that a hungry child can have a cup of milk?

A ramshackle hut made from a few stray boards and parts of old autos picked up by a father is home for a family of eight that fled from Soviet Germany. And yet in spite of their poverty the father could say, "We are poor and yet we are rich. We have lost everything of our belongings, but we have not lost our faith and our will to live worthwhile lives." Are we willing to give that a refugee family may have an opportunity to share what we enjoy?

There is a land across the Pacific where war in its course devastated about four-fifths of the country once, and a quarter of it twice, with much of it still lying in ruins. That land is Korea, and even though the war ended in 1953, there is the terrible poverty that comes after the wrecking and wasting of conflict. Over a million young widows were left with small children and no means of support. Children are starving, and without clothing, are without the loving care of mothers and fathers. Are we willing to take an extra blanket from our beds that one of these little ones might be warmed?

Events of the past few weeks have added to this tragic picture thousands of others—homeless Hungarians and refugee Arabs.

In devastated areas of East Germany the church uses mobile "Gospel wagons" to teach boys and girls the Christian way of life and to counteract the influence of atheism taught in Soviet controlled schools. A Swedish pastor conducts Sunday School in a parsonage attic in

Colombia. An Arab sits and studies the Gospel in his native language and learns about the love in Christ. Demons were the masthead of life in the area until a Lutheran missionary came to teach the love of God. Are we willing to give that those in need may possess the love of Jesus in their hearts

so it is Thanksgiving again! Let us thank God for the blessings which we have, and then let us share generously with those in need—not only at Thanksgiving, but

People and Places

Dakota-Montana:

Luther Leagues of the North Dakota-Montana District gathered at **Emmaus Church** in **Westby, Minnesota** on September 30 for a Fall Rally with the leagues in **Neveville** and **Emmaus** as hosts. Speaker for this rally was **Pastor Wallace Hunstad** who serves an ELC congregation at **Grenora**.

For the spring call for a visit to the district by **Director, George Robertson**. He will conduct clinics in the various congregations from April through May 5 and will meet with the church council regarding youth work.

This year's Luther League Convention will probably be held in August because of the Synodical Luther League Convention in June and Bible camp in July.

Senior Leaguers of the Iowa District gathered at **Westby** for their annual convention October 31-November 1. Appearing as speakers on a program that used "Ambassadors For Christ" as its theme were **Youth Director, George Robertson**; Synodical President, **Wilhelm W. Larsen**; Dana College President, **C. C. Madsen**; and District L. L. President, **Cleo Hanson**.

Johnson of Shelby was awarded the 1955-56 Dana Scholarship. The 1956-57 scholarship was awarded to **Gene Petersen** of **Council Bluffs**, but because she did not return to Dana, it was given to **Nellie Hagberg** of **Antic**.

Christmas Chimes trophy was awarded to **Storm** for 1954 and to **Underwood** for 1955.

Forty-three young people attended the Leadership Training School held in connection with the Senior Conference at **Lake Okoboji** this summer.

Honk For Hello

By Howard Clark

What does your horn say—"Pardon me, I want to pass" or "Get out of my way"? At a stop signal the driver in the car ahead of you may not have noticed the signal, or he may have killed the motor. Why not honk once, then wait and see what happens? If he can, the driver will move. But if you sit there and press down on the horn, you only further rattle the forward driver, making it more difficult for him to start his motor. And honking to attract the attention of your friends attracts the attention of everyone, and I do mean for miles! Are you worth that much attention?

A loud honking of the horn usually causes more trouble than anything else. Tests have shown that old people and children "freeze" at the loud blast of the horn. Instead of hurrying them across the street, they instinctively stop.

Granted, it is a temptation to honk for the girl friend when you call for her. The motor is purring, you are comfortable and a little late. And she's ready, isn't she? Resist that temptation. Be a gentleman. After all, you can be. Stop the motor, move the carcass, go ring the doorbell and call properly for the girl. Watch how your stock will go up with her, and her parents. You're doing something!

It's all very well to learn the rules, but what's the use—dad says I can't have the car! In this car geared age most dads are reasonable about letting their sons have the use of the family car—after he has his license and has proved he's a fair driver. Sure, there will be occasions when every member of the family seems to need the car the same night. Dad has to go back to the office, mom is going to a shower, and you have to take your girl to a banquet. That's where talking things over with parents comes in. Instead of storming out of the house, or blatantly insisting you gotta have the car, see if a three-way compromise can't be worked out. Maybe you can take dad to the office on your way and mom can go with a friend.

Naturally you want to start working and saving for your own car. It is surprising how that piggy bank can grow, once he is transferred to a corner bank. Meanwhile, you're looking around, learning the value of cars and finding out how to estimate the worth of a second-hand car. It's tricky business and all that runs is not a good buy. Save while you learn!

(From the forthcoming book, **For Fellows Only**, to be printed by Zondervan.)

BY THE FIRESIDE

A STILLNESS IN THE MOUNTAINS

By Daniel Heitmeyer

Now prophecies of Winter's cold
Appear in Autumn's red and gold;
The river's voice among the stones
Is sad with farewell undertones;
Among the birch and aspen trees
Are whisperings of drifting leaves;
The farther summits fade away
Amid the haze of waning day.

The earth, in still expectancy,
Becomes aware, O God, of thee.

There is a hush in wood and glen,
And peace within the minds of men,
A peace that art can not contain,
Nor cynic reason can explain,
When Self is by the All subdued,
And worships in the solitude.

ISAIAH 54:7

By Ruth West Pederson

"For a small moment have I forsaken
thee,"

The Father said,
But I am sure he watched to see
If I could stand alone—
He was not gone.

There was a night of blinding grief,
A loved one gone,
But when I groped through tears
And found God's hand,
"He gathered me in mercy kind,"
He was not gone.

—Free Methodist

I REMEMBER MAMMA'S FAITH

By Charles H. Rankin

It happened in the late fall of 1932
while Papa was working away from
home, not long before my seventh
birthday. Had I been older maybe I
would not have remembered it so
clearly, but as a small lad I was deeply
impressed by Mamma's faith.

The depression was in full force,
but it was not the lack of food that
tested her faith. Winter had already
begun to blow its bitter breath, and
we did not have any fuel. We were
living on a rented farm and were not
allowed to cut any timber for fuel.
There were only a few trees, and
most of these were around the house
and in the yard.

To the right of the house, and in
the yard, were several pear trees.
On the front were two small magnolias
in perfect symmetry with the
house. Then to the left, more to the
front corner of the house, was a tall

sycamore (its height I scaled many
times). The rest, as I remember, were
oaks, all around the house.

One of these was especially close
to the chimney. This is the oak I
remember best. This tree spared us
from the winter's cold because it be-
came our source of fuel.

On a Stormy Night

It happened during a stormy night.
A cyclone blew over, dipping low
enough to twist that stalwart oak
and to uproot it. The tree was close
enough to reach across the house,
and large enough to crush it to earth.
Yet neither lashing limbs nor whip-
ping winds so much as touched a
shingle.

Then I remembered that Mamma
told us this was God's doing, and her
words fastened themselves to my
young and tender soul. In one divine
stroke God made provision for our
need, she said, while gently laying
that massive oak to rest. Every stick
of debris was like precious manna
from heaven as our saws were set to
work. This was the fruit of Mamma's
patient and silent trust in God.

—Home Life

AS ONE UNKNOWN

He came to us as one unknown,
without a name, as of old, by the lake-
side. He came to those men who knew
Him not. He speaks to us the same
word: "Follow thou me!" and sets us
at the task which He has to fulfil for
our time. He commands. And to those
who obey Him, whether they be wise
or simple, He will reveal Himself in
the toils, the conflicts, the sufferings
which they shall pass through in His
fellowship and as an ineffable mystery,
they shall learn in their own experi-
ence who He is.

Albert Schweitzer "The Quest of
the Historical Jesus"

READ IT THIS WAY

By Richard Traver

Colossians 3:2: "Set your clock by
adjusting your compass to, set your
scales by, bring your standards in
harmony with, order and arrange your
life around, adjust your mental life
to, and integrate your personality with
—that which has to do with the realm
of the Spirit—the eternal, 'above'
realm of things on the earth." Or,
"Build an orderly system of values
in your life with the 'heavenly' at the
top."

COLLATERAL

Snodgrass had barely paid off t
mortgage on his house when he mo
gaged it again to buy a car. Havi
bought the auto, he sought out t
same banker again and tried
mortgage the car to build a garage.
Exasperated, the bank official sa
sarcastically, "If I do make the lo
how will you get the money to b
gas for the car?"

"Well, it seems to me," said Sno
grass, "that a fellow who owns h
own house, car and garage should
able to get credit for gas!"

Trac

An old Lancashire woman was b
tending to the reasons that the neig
bors were giving for their minister
success. They spoke of his gifts,
his style, of his manner, "Nay," sh
said, "I tell you what it is. Yon m
is very thick with the Almighty."

—Moody Month

"Like your new bungalow with
cellar?"

"Sure thing, My wife hasn't heard
single burglar downstairs since
moved in."

Another Texas yarn has one of the
thar tycoons rushing into an airpo
terminal and demanding: "Gimme
ticket."

"Where to, sir?" asks the agent.

"Anywhere, son!" booms the Texa
"I've got business all over."

The modern Indian chieftian ope
ed a speech to his tribe with "Yo
all know me as Chief Trainwhistl
but since I am extremely democrat
I hope that, for short, you will fe
free to call me 'Toots.'"

She: "George, doesn't the bride loo
stunning?"

He:—"Uh-huh. And doesn't th
groom look stunned!"

I believe with all my heart th
God's purpose for His Church toda
is the same—to make it a church
be feared. Speaking of the church
terms of a building, it should be
place to which people almost fear
come lest they be converted.

Alan Redpath, in
Victorious Christian Living
(Fleming H. Revell Co.)

Thanksgiving In The Psalms

By H. H. Smith, Sr.

seems very fitting that the Psalms should occupy the place assigned them in the Scripture. The One Hundred and Seventeenth Psalm is the middle chapter of the Book of Psalms. As worship is the very heart of religion, it is appropriate that this great body of devotional literature—the Psalms—should be found in the center of the Bible. This chapter, which happens to be the shortest in the Bible, is a doxology, calling upon all people to praise the Lord. “O praise the Lord, all ye nations: praise Him, all ye people. For His merciful kindness is great toward us: His truth of the Lord endureth forever. Praise ye the Lord.”

This suggests a meditation on Thanksgiving as found in the Psalms. For what did the Psalmists give thanks? Many “Psalmists,” for several authors took part in these notable productions.

We should observe, first of all, how impressively the Psalmists exhort all created things to render praise and thanksgiving to God. “Let the people praise Thee, O Lord; let all the people praise Thee. . . . O praise the Lord, all ye nations, praise Him, all ye peoples . . . Bless the Lord, all His works in all places of His dominion. Praise ye Him, sun and moon; praise Him, all ye stars of light. . . . Praise Him, ye heaven of heavens. Let them praise the name of the Lord, for He commanded and they were created. . . . Praise the Lord, O ye earth, ye sea monsters, and all deep, fire and snow and vapors; stormy wind fulfilling His word; mountains and hills, fruitful fields and all cedars; beasts of the field, all cattle, creeping thing that hath breath, praise the Lord, earth and all peoples. . . . Let them praise the name of the Lord. . . . Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord. Praise ye the Lord.”

For the Psalmist himself, he says: “While I live I will praise the Lord; I will sing praises unto my God as long as I have any being.” Such heart-felt words could only come from one who had an intimate knowledge of God and a deep sense of gratitude for His mercies.

We do well to observe an annual Thanksgiving day, but let us not overlook the daily Thanksgiving. “Bless the Lord, who daily loadeth us with benefits. . . . It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord; . . . to declare forth Thy lovingkindness in the morning, and Thy faithfulness every night. . . . Every day will I bless Thee.” If Paul teaches us to pray without ceasing, the Psalmist teaches us to give thanks unceasingly. “I will praise the Lord at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth.”

The Psalmist found many things for which to thank God—for life, for daily bread, for victory over enemies, for forgiveness of sin, for answered prayer, for healing, for deliverance from death, etc. But there are other blessings for which the singers of Israel were

grateful to God, and none moved them more profoundly than the contemplation of the character of God: His majesty, holiness, omnipotence, omniscience, wisdom, love. They were awed by the majesty of God: “How terrible art Thou in Thy works”; but even this was a cause for thanksgiving.

The Psalmists were without that clear revelation of God's character which Christ brought to the world; but they were not strangers to the manifold grace of God, as implied in the oft-recurring words: “Goodness and mercy.” This occupies the central thought in their thanksgiving. “I will sing of the mercies of the Lord forever; with my mouth will I make known Thy faithfulness to all generations.” “Because Thy lovingkindness is better than life, my lips shall praise Thee.” “O give thanks unto the Lord; for He is good; for His mercy endureth forever.”

In spiritual discernment the Psalmists stood out from the multitudes. Some of them seem to have anticipated the teaching of our Lord, that in Him the deep needs of the soul should be satisfied. Committing themselves to God, they experience peace and serenity of soul, as stated in the Sixty-third Psalm: “My soul shall be satisfied as with marrow and fatness; and my mouth shall praise Thee with joyful lips; when I remember Thee upon my bed, and meditate upon Thee in the night watches.”

Our blessings are numberless, and we should be deeply grateful for all of them; but we should first of all thank God for God—for what He is as we know Him through Jesus Christ our Lord.

If the Psalmists saw the glorious character of God from afar and rejoiced and gave thanks, how much more should we, who have the fuller revelation in His Son, who is “the express image of the Father!”

THAT WOULD BE TELLING

You tell on yourself by the friends you seek,
By the very manner in which you speak,
By the way you employ your leisure time,
By the use you make of dollar and dime,
You tell what you are by the things you wear,
By the spirit in which you burdens bear,
By the kinds of things at which you laugh,
By the records you play on the phonograph,
You tell what you are by the way you walk,
By the things of which you delight to talk,
By the manner in which you bear defeat,
By so simple a thing as how you eat;
By the books you choose from the well-filled shelf,
In these ways and more, you tell on yourself,
So there's really no particle of sense,
In an effort to keep up False Pretense.

—Author Unknown

1956-57 Budget	339317.00	19404.00	148088.00	32103.00	70662.00	7800.00
Percentages (approximate)	100 Pct.	.06	.42	.10	.21	.02

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

	Total Received	Chil- dren's Homes	School Fund	General Fund	Home Mission	Indian Mission
Previously acknowledged (November 10, 1956)	84974.91	4638.87	26923.67	15711.15	18691.03	3737.52
Blair, Nebr., First Luth. Church, from Rev. and Mrs. L. C. Hansen, in memory of Infant Rebecca Emily Mengers of Steele, N. Dakota and Infant Karen Mae Hansen of Lakewood, Colo.	5.00	5.00				
McCabe, Mont., Ebenezer Luth. Church	133.00				133.00	
Penn Yan, New York, St. Paul's Ev. Luth. Church	250.68	15.00	105.00	25.68	52.50	5.00
Dannebrog, Nebr., from Rev. and Mrs. Viggo J. Petersen	50.00		50.00			
Warrens, Wis., Ebenezer Luth. Church, from Eva M. Laursen, in memory of her grandmother, Mrs. Bertha Sorensen	5.00		5.00			
Camp Douglas, Wis., St. Stephen's Luth. Church	100.00	6.00	42.00	10.00	21.00	2.00
Berkeley, Calif., Our Savior's Luth. Church, from the Dorcas Society in memory of Mrs. Martin Miller, Salinas, Calif.	5.00	5.00				
Brush, Colo., Rec'd of Rev. and Mrs. James Christensen, in memory of Bill Mahlum, Albert Lea, Minnesota	3.00				3.00	
Toronto, Can., St. Ansgar Luth. Church	650.90	39.00	272.00	66.90	136.50	13.00
Greenville, Mich., St. Paul's Ev. Luth. Church	200.00	12.00	84.00	20.00	42.00	4.00
Sidney, Mont., Pella Danish Luth. Church	300.00	18.00	126.00	30.00	63.00	6.00
Elk Horn, Ia., Elk Horn Luth. Church, from Mrs. Ora Hansen of Grundy Center, Iowa	14.50				14.50	
Salmonhurst, N. B., Can., St. Peter's Church	41.00			41.00		
Des Moines, Ia., Highland Park Luth. Church	250.00	15.00	105.00	25.00	52.50	5.00
Harlan, Ia., Immanuel Luth. Church	347.40	20.00	145.00	39.40	72.00	6.00
Greenville, Mich., St. Paul's Ev. Luth. S. S. Birthday Bank	10.27	10.27				
Castro Valley, Calif., Faith Luth. Church	264.41	15.00	110.00	29.41	55.00	5.00
Denver, Colo., Christ the King Ev. Luth. Church	85.00	5.00	35.00	10.00	17.00	2.00
Exira, Ia., Exira Luth. Church	500.00	30.00	210.00	50.00	105.00	10.00
Lynwood, Calif., St. Paul's Luth. Church	590.25	35.00	247.00	62.25	123.00	11.00
Petaluma, Calif., Elfm Luth. Church	200.00	12.00	84.00	20.00	42.00	4.00
Laurel, Nebr., Gethsemane Luth. Church, from friends in memory of Mr. Peter Rasmussen	6.00					
Kenmare, N. Dak., Rec'd of Mrs. Henry Moen, Kenmare, N. D., \$1 and Mr. and Mrs. Dale Olney, Northgate, N. Dak., \$1 in memory of Mrs. Edw. Tegmeier	2.00					
Cushing, Wis., First Luth. Church, from Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Hellesvig	5.00				5.00	
Flaxton, N. Dak., United Luth. Church	300.00	18.00	126.00	30.00	63.00	6.00
Des Plaines, Ill., from John and Jensine Sorensen Indian Mission \$40 and Ebenezer Elev. \$20	40.00					40.00
Cushing, Wis., Cushing Luth. Church	25.00			25.00		
Trufant, Mich., St. Thomas Luth. Church, from the Tabitha Ladies Aid in memory of Rev. E. J. Nest	2.00				2.00	
Bowbells, N. Dak., Rec'd of Marlow and Percy Peterson in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Martin Petersen, Kenmare, N. Dak.	120.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00
Milwaukee, Wis., Kingo Luth. Church	150.00	9.00	63.00	15.00	31.50	3.00
Denver, Colo., St. Mark's Luth. Church	60.00	3.00	25.00	7.00	12.00	2.00
Please Note: This was omitted from the Oct. 23 issue: From Elim Circle, Albert Lea, Minn., to Elim Children's Home	100.00	100.00				
Blair, Nebr., Women's Missionary Society Synodical Treasurer						
Olivet Luth. Women of the Church, Los Angeles, Oaks Children's Home, Elim Children's Home and Utah Mission	95.00	25.00		35.00		35.00
From Ladies Aid of Our Savior's Luth. Church, Oakland, Calif., Oaks Children's Home and Elim Children's Home	30.00	15.00				15.00
From Zion Sewing Soc., Ansgar Luth. Church, San Francisco, Calif., Pension Fund, Oaks Children's Home and Elim Children's Home	45.00	10.00				10.00
Bethany Luth. Ladies Aid and Mission Soc., West Branch, in memory of Mrs. Kris Hansen	5.00				5.00	
From Church Women, Graettinger, Iowa Circle II for Ebenezer Elevator Fund, Brush, Colo., \$36						
Northfield, Minn., From Immanuel Luth. Ladies Aid of Hazelwood, Minn.	125.00	25.00	25.00		25.00	25.00
Eugene, Ore., Emmaus Ladies Aid in memory of Andrew M. Anderson	5.00				5.00	
Golgotha, Ill., Rec'd of Sophie and Lawrence Iversen, in memory of Harold Lagoni, Minden, Mich.	10.00				10.00	
West Branch, Ia., in memory of Mrs. Kris Hansen, Louisville, Kentucky, from the following: \$1 each: Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Jensen, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Christensen, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Thompson, Mr. and Mrs. Louie Hansen, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Sorensen, Mrs. Hary Sorensen, Mrs. Laura Pedersen and Mr. and Mrs. Henry Johnson; \$2 each: Mr. and Mrs. Wilfred Jensen, Mr. and Mrs. Wilmer Jensen, Mr. and Mrs. Warren Jensen, Mrs. Agnes Jensen, Mrs. Esther Wiesman and Paul, Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Alderman, Mr. and Mrs. Sherman Anderson, Mrs. Carrie Morrison; \$5 each: Mr. and Mrs. Carl Larson and Mr. and Mrs. Phil Sorenson	34.00				34.00	
Aurora, Colo., Altura Community Luth. Church	75.00	4.50	31.50	7.50	15.75	1.50
New York, New York, Rec'd of Godfred Doctor	1.00			1.00		
TOTAL	90216.32	5110.64	28834.17	16281.29	19851.28	3968.02

1956 Budget	111144.00	43399.00	16000.00	25000.00	10000.00	16745.00
Percentages (approximate)	100 Pct.	.39	.14	.23	.09	.15

SPECIAL MISSIONS

	Total (Where Most Received Needed)	Foreign Missions	1956 Luth. World Action	South Amer. Mission	Japan Mission	Santal Mission	Sudan Mission	Jewish Mission
Previously acknowledged (November 10, 1956)	71139.17	3116.91	22483.94	11621.49	12178.91	9327.49	11665.33	315.10
Kenmare, N. Dak., Trinity Luth. S. S. Mission Bank	94.75				94.75			
Penn Yan, New York, St. Paul's Ev. Luth. Church	126.00		126.00					
Kenmare, N. Dak., Nazareth Luth. Church, from Nels Mugaas	10.00			10.00				
Dannebrog, Nebr., from Rev. and Mrs. Viggo J. Petersen	10.00		10.00					
Humboldt, Ia., Trinity Luth. Church	60.00		60.00					
Humboldt, Ia., Trinity Luth. Church, from Henry Erickson	25.00		25.00					
Camp Douglas, Wis., St. Stephen's Luth. Church	18.30	8.30	10.00					
Pasadena, Calif., Bethany Luth. S. S.	60.00							
Toronto, Can., St. Ansgar Luth. S. S.	24.00				30.00		30.00	
From Peter Mathiasen	41.10					9.25		14.75
Greenville, Mich., St. Paul's Ev. Luth. Church	325.00		325.00	20.55			20.55	
Northfield, Minn., St. Peter's Luth. Church, So. Amer. Mission \$25, Santal Mission \$25, Pakistan \$50, and Thailand \$50	150.00			25.00				
Kimballton, Ia., Jacksonville S. S.	15.39					125.00		
Harlan, Ia., Immanuel Luth. Church	166.25		166.25				15.39	
Castro Valley, Calif., Faith Luth. Church, Birthday S. S. \$171.20 and Mr. and Mrs. Beckwith \$50	221.20		221.20					
Exira, Ia., Exira Luth. Church, in memory of Nels Christensen from the members	4.50	4.50						
Laurel, Nebr., Gethsemane Luth. Church, from friends in memory of Mr. Peter Rasmussen	6.00			6.00				
Bowbells, N. Dak., Rec'd of Marlow and Percy Petersen in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Martin Petersen, Kenmare, No. Dak.	80.00			20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	
Farmington, Minn., Farmington Ev. Luth. Church	200.00		200.00					
Coon Rapids, Ia., Immanuel Luth. Ladies Aid	25.00		25.00					

P. V. Hansen, Treasurer.

—J.M.J.

Lake City, Utah, Pastor Arthur
ensen at Tabor Lutheran
 was installed by President
 n Larsen, Nov. 4. That same
 Miss Thelma Tollefson start-
 work as parish worker of Ta-
 theran. A confirmation class of
 been started, and 8 families
 received into membership by
 r Nov. 11.

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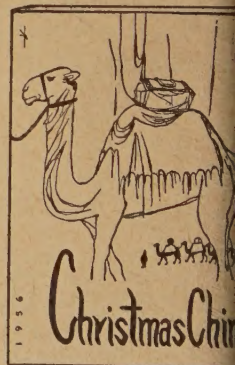
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